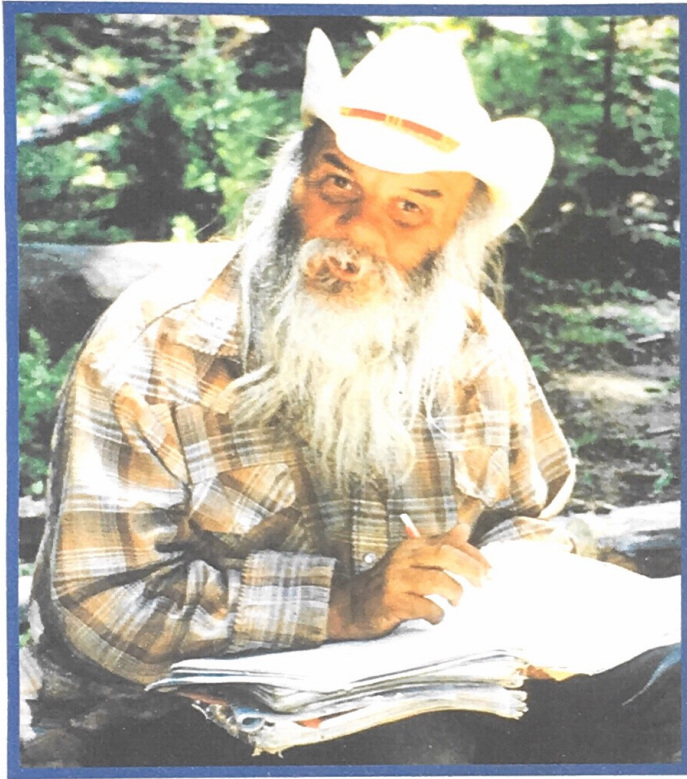


Rainbow Family Life Stories



*by Jodey Bateman.
Interviews with Rainbow
Family of Living Light
folks conducted between
1977 and 2008.
Scanned in 2018.
Jodey Bateman may be
contacted on Facebook.*

04.K GARRICK - "To Build a Mass Movement"
introduction by Jodey [1 of 4]
- interviewed at the
Rainbow Farm in 1981 and
1987

2 pages

[04.K]

GARRICK - To Build a Mass Movement

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[Garrick is constantly in a whirl of activity and usually has very little time to spare. At the Oregon Gathering, he said he only had time to answer seven questions about his life for this book. I took down his answers and also notes on a conversation he was having at the same time with young man of Hassidic Jewish background about his own relationship to Judaism.

Then after the West Virginia Gathering in 1980, I gave up on adding any more to this book. But I went to Garrick's Rainbow Farm in December, 1981 and he encouraged me to start the book up again and spent all one night until five a.m. telling me about his own life - the first half of the story here.

Garrick was involved to some degree in his parents' radical activities in childhood - in contrast to Michael Bear and Jayson, who were only barely aware of a radical tradition in their families. He has tried to apply those radical values in his relation to Rainbow Farm - the community that has grown up on land he bought in Oregon.

I visited Garrick there at Rainbow Farm in August, 1987 to get the final half of his life story, and much of it concerns Rainbow Farm and how to apply radical values to the problems there. As I said in the Introduction, the communes that survive a long time tend to be those built around a powerful leader who is accepted as the spiritual teacher - like Stephen Gaskin or Lore Israel. Garrick, because of his values, has refused to try to set up any such personality cult around himself (and he would probably be laughed at by many Rainbow people if he tried to). At the same time he has refused to resort to solving problems at Rainbow Farm by the final appeal American society would have him make. "Do it this way because I have the ownership papers on this place!"

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(See for example how the problem at the farm with the "Philly Crew" was worked out)

Rainbow Farm has lasted without a personality cult just as long as Stephen Gaskins or Love Isue's communities

Garrick now spends most of his time in New York and the flood of visitors that was once at Rainbow Farm is now a trickle, yet it has continued as a productive community with an effect on the surrounding rural area.